

MADERA REGION REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT GROUP

IRWMP PLANNING GRANT APPLICATION

ATTACHMENT 3.1

**LETTERS OF AGREEMENT WITH NEIGHBORING
IRWMP GROUPS**

May 10, 2010

State of California
Department of Water Resources
Division of Planning and Local Assistance
Attn. Ralph Svetich
Post Office Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

Dear Mr. Svetich:

**Integrated Regional Water Management -
Letter of Agreement on Regions Common Shared Areas**

The Madera and Southern Sierra Regional Water Management Groups (RWMG), through a process of open discussion, collaboration and mutual agreement, have established a common shared area. This Letter of Agreement establishes that the Madera and Southern Sierra RWMGs accept this area for purposes of defining their respective Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) regions, as set forth in the Department of Water Resources' (DWR) 2009 *Final IRWM Region Acceptance Process Guidelines* (RAP Guidelines).

The shared area between the Southern Sierra RWMG and the Madera RWMG will be the subwatershed area upstream of Mammoth Pool Reservoir and north of the southern Madera County Line as shown on Attachment 1. The parties will work to maintain communication and collaboration on a variety of watershed-based issues. In accordance with the RAP Guidelines, this area takes into account the water management issues of the two regions, including water quality and supply, environmental stewardship, flood management and drought preparedness, as well as stakeholder concerns and water infrastructure.

The Madera and Southern Sierra RWMGs have both identified water management issues and objectives that are applicable to the entire San Joaquin River watershed. Subsequently, the Madera and Southern Sierra RWMGs agree to collaborate on water management issues related to the entire San Joaquin River watershed, including, but not limited to the following mutually identified items:

1. Protection of water quality, including headwater protection;
2. Control and/or removal of invasive species;
3. Riparian habitat restoration; and
4. Post-fire restoration
5. The relationship between land use and water quality and quantity

Note: A formal process for collaboration will be defined and agreed to in a second letter agreement to be established once both RWMGs have adopted their respective long-term governance structures. Until such time, the Madera and Southern Sierra RWMGs agree to continue to actively collaborate in accordance with the existing governance procedures of both RWMGs.

On behalf of the Madera Regional Water Management Group:

Mr. R. Neveu, YSPUC

Mr. R. Neveu

Lead Agency: YSPUC

Contact: MICHAEL NEVEU

Phone number: (559) 658-7466

On behalf of the Southern Sierra Regional Water Management Group:

Bobby Kamansky

Lead Agency: Sequoia Riverlands Trust

Contact: Bobby Kamansky, Project Manager

Phone number: (559) 287-3311

cc: Tracie Billington, Department of Water Resources
Jim Lin, Department of Water Resources

INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT

Merced and Madera Regions

Letter of Agreement

For

Regions Common Boundary

and

Overall Cooperation and Collaboration

The Merced and Madera Integrated Water Management Regions (IWMR), through collaboration and mutual agreement, have established a common boundary line. This Letter of Agreement establishes that the Madera and Merced IWRMs accept this common boundary line for purposes of defining their respective Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) regions, as set forth in the Department of Water Resources' (DWR) 2009 *Final IRWM Region Acceptance Process Guidelines* (RAP Guidelines). The IWMRs also agree to cooperate and collaborate on goals common to the San Joaquin River Watershed.

The shared boundary line between the Merced and the Madera regions will begin at the easterly boundary of Merced Groundwater Basin as identified in the DWR Bulletin 118, and continues westerly along Chowchilla River to its intersection with Madera County Boundary line, where it departs along said county line to its intersection with the San Joaquin River, as shown on Attachment 1. The common boundary line is intended to eliminate any gaps between the two regions. The parties will work to maintain communication and collaboration on a variety of watershed-based issues.

The Madera and Merced IWMRs are both located within the San Joaquin River Watershed and certain water management issues and objectives are applicable to the entire San Joaquin River watershed. Subsequently, the Madera and Merced IWMRs agree to collaborate on such water management issues, including, but not limited to the following mutually identified items:

1. Protection of water quality, including headwater protection;
2. Control and/or removal of invasive species;
3. Riparian habitat restoration; and
4. Post-fire restoration
5. The relationship between land use and water quality and quantity

A formal process for collaboration will be defined and agreed to in a second letter agreement to be established once both IWMRs have adopted their respective long-term governance structures. Until such time, the Madera and Merced agree to continue to actively collaborate in accordance with the existing governance procedures of both RWMGs.

On behalf of the Madera Regional Water Management Plan:

Carl Janzen 4-11-11

Lead Agency:
Contact: Carl Janzen
Phone number: (559) 479-1070

On behalf of the Merced Regional Water Management Plan:

Hicham Eltal 4-12-11

Lead Agency: Merced Irrigation District
Contact: Hicham Eltal
Phone number (209) 722-5761

cc: Michelle Dooley, Department of Water Resources
Tracie Billington, Department of Water Resources
Jim Lin, Department of Water Resources

**Integrated Regional Water Management -
Letter of Agreement on Coordination and Communication Between Regions**

The Madera and Yosemite-Mariposa Regional Water Management Groups (RWMG), through a process of open discussion, collaboration and mutual agreement have established an agreement on coordination and communication between their regions. This Letter of Agreement establishes the procedures and intentions regarding such coordination and communication.

Intent: The Yosemite-Mariposa and Madera regions share a common border and portions of the upper watersheds of the Chowchilla, Fresno and Merced Rivers. The two regions, represented by their respective Regional Water Management Groups, will work to maintain coordination and communication on a variety of common water and watershed-based issues.

Procedure: The Yosemite-Mariposa RWMG will be developing its Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Plan over the next several years and the Madera RWMG will be updating its existing plan to meet new State requirements during the same time period. In both cases, a revised governance structure is likely to result from the Plan development. The two RWMGs agree to include a formal procedure for coordination and communication between their regions as part of their revised governance structures. Until such time, the Yosemite-Mariposa and the Madera RWMGs agree to actively coordinate and communicate in accordance with the existing procedures of both RWMGs

On behalf of the Madera Regional Water Management Group:

Carl Janzen

Lead Agency: Madera Regional Water Management Group

Contact: Carl Janzen or Jeannie Habben

Phone Number: 559-673-3514 or 559-642-3263

10/10/11

On behalf of the Yosemite-Mariposa Regional Water Management Group:

Glenn Franklin

Lead Agency: MARIPOSA COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Contact: GLENN FRANKLIN OR PAT GARCIA

Phone Number: 209-966-3431 - SEPT. 22, 2011

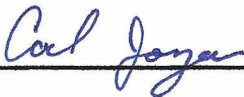
**Integrated Regional Water Management -
Letter of Agreement on Communication Between Regions**

The Madera and Kings Basin Regional Water Management Groups (RWMG), through a process of open discussion, collaboration and mutual agreement have established an agreement on communication between their regions. This Letter of Agreement establishes the procedures and intentions regarding such communication.

Intent: The Kings Basin and Madera regions share a common border along the Fresno and Madera County line. The two regions, represented by their respective RWMGs, will work to maintain communication on a variety of common water and watershed-based issues.

Procedure: The Kings Basin and Madera RWMGs will be updating their existing Integrated Regional Water Management Plans (IRWMPs) to meet new State requirements over the course of the next several years. As a task to update its IRWMP, the Kings Basin RWMG will add language which describes the nature of its cooperative and collaborative relationship with the Madera RWMG. In the case of Madera RWMG, a revised governance structure is likely to result from its IRWMP update. Madera RWMG will include a formal procedure for communication with Kings Basin RWMG as part of their revised governance structure, or, will describe the nature of its cooperative and collaborative relationship with the Kings Basin RWMG within its updated IRWMP. Until such time, the Kings Basin and the Madera RWMGs agree to actively communicate in accordance with the existing procedures of both RWMGs

On behalf of the Madera Regional Water Management Group:



Lead Agency: Madera Irrigation District

Contact: Carl Janzen

Phone Number: 559-673-3514

On behalf of the Kings Basin Regional Water Management Group:



Lead Agency: Upper Kings Basin IRWM Authority

Contact: David Orth, Secretary/Treasurer

Phone Number: 559-237-5567

INYO-MONO INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLANNING
PROJECT

TO: Mr. Svetich
State of California
Department of Water Resources
Division of Planning and Local Assistance

FROM: Dr. Mark Drew, Project Manager, Inyo-Mono IRWMP Launch Project

SUBJECT: Integrated Regional Water Management-Letter of Agreement on Devils Postpile
National Monument and Mammoth Mountain Ski Area

DATE: 4/24/2009

CC: Tracie Billington, Department of Water Resources
Jim Lin, Department of Water Resources

Dear Mr. Svetich:

This letter addresses the shared interest among the Inyo-Mono, South Sierra, and Madera IRWMPs in the Devils Postpile National Monument and Mammoth Mountain Ski Area.

Devils Postpile National Monument is located near the headwaters of the Upper Middle Fork of the San Joaquin in Madera County, and can only be accessed by road from the Town of Mammoth Lakes in Mono County CA. Through the discussions among the representatives of the Madera, Southern Sierra, and Inyo-Mono IRWMPs, and Devils Postpile, there is consensus that it is important to include Devils Postpile in these IRWMPs and include each other in discussions that affect this shared area of interest.

Mammoth Mountain Ski Area operates under a Special Use Permit administered by the Inyo National Forest. The permit area encompasses 3500 acres, covers both Madera and Mono Counties, and is split by two distinct watersheds/aquifers. The majority of the permit area is covered by the South Lahontan Watershed and its two drainages: Dry Creek, which flows northeast into Mono County, and Mammoth Creek, which flows southeast into Mono County. The 535 acres of the permit area in Madera County are in the North Fork of the San Joaquin Watershed flowing west from the top of Mammoth Mountain towards Reds Meadow and Devils Postpile National Monument.

The representatives of these five entities agree to communicate and collaborate regarding water-related projects in these shared areas of interest in line with the goals of the IRWM program.

Sincerely,



Mark Drew, Inyo-Mono IRWMP Launch Project Manager
Lead Agency: California Trout
Contact: Dr. Mark Drew, (760) 924-1008



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Devils Postpile National Monument
P. O. Box 3999
Mammoth Lakes, California 93546
760-934-2289



L317

March 9, 2009

Norman Shopay
Department of Water Resources
PO Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236

Subject : Devils Postpile National Monument within Madera, Southern Sierra, and Mono/Inyo IRWMP

Dear Mr. Shopay,

Thank you for the opportunity for inclusion of Devils Postpile (DEPO) into the Integrated Regional Management Groups process that is underway within California. The purpose of this letter is to inform Dept of Water Resources of an agreement between Madera, Southern Sierra, and Mono/Inyo IRWMPs to identify this as an area of shared interest and overlapping boundaries, and to request approval of this agreement to help facilitate the regional acceptance process.

Devils Postpile National Monument is located near the headwaters of the Upper Middle Fork of the San Joaquin in Madera County, and can only be accessed by road from the Town of Mammoth Lakes in Mono County CA. Devils Postpile is at the core of the glaciated river valley with abundant wetlands and wildlife, and as a National Park Service unit is a destination visited by many people that brings satisfaction to them and revenue to the local gateway communities in Mono County. The Monument which is along the Upper Middle Fork of the San Joaquin in Madera County is interconnected to Mono County by the shared groundwater aquifer on Mammoth Mountain, migratory corridors for wildlife and shared biodiversity, and the ecotourism benefits to the gateway communities. By maintaining a healthy watershed, biodiversity and migratory corridors will be preserved, while there is a clean and sustainable water supply for downstream users. Additionally, visitors and gateway communities will benefit from the recreational and ecotourism benefits, and an intact watershed will reduce risk of catastrophic fires and eroded slopes that could cause flooding and siltation and have a negative impact on gateway communities sustainable tourism economy and downstream users. Another important aspect of insuring the watershed's integrity, is maintaining the resilience of the watershed and the ability to adapt to climate change scenarios that may significantly impact water resources.

IRWMPs share the goals of understanding the watershed resources, and making sound decisions. Through the discussions among the representatives of the Madera, Southern Sierra, and Inyo/Mono IRWMP, and DEPO, there is consensus that it is important to include DEPO in these IRWMPs and include each other in discussions that affect this shared area of interest. Thank you again for your consideration, and if any further information can be provided, please contact me.

Sincerely,
/s/ Deanna M. Dulen
Superintendent